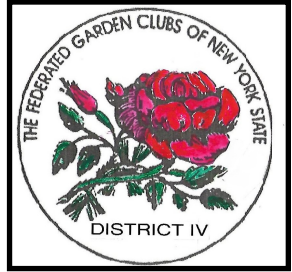


# THE GARDEN GATE

## FGCNYS District IV Newsletter

Winter/Spring 2020  
[www.nydistrictIV.org](http://www.nydistrictIV.org)



### Message from District IV Director Charlanne Ryan-McDonough



Dear District IV Members,

The clubs are busy program planning for the new year, editing the new yearbooks, getting members involved at the monthly meetings and welcoming new members. No weeds growing here!

Let this director tell you about our latest collaborative project open to the public. District IV and the Saratoga Springs Public Library are co-sponsoring a lecture entitled Composting: What's Going On Inside the Pile? The date is Saturday, April 25, 2020 at the library at 2:00-4:00 pm in the Dutcher Community Room. Sander Bonvell, owner of Earth View

Environmental, will present a Powerpoint program about the process and steps of how food waste turns into new soil food. Lorraine McPherson, instrumental in securing Sander, is heading up the program portion of the event. Thank you Lorraine! Informal displays will be provided by local organizations, door prizes and refreshments. Mark your calendars!

District IV will offer a bus trip to Pine Hollow Arboretum late summer or early fall. We will assess the interest for a short trip, then consider a longer trip next time. Details to follow.

Heritage Garden Club is hosting the District IV Spring Meeting and Luncheon at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Hotel in Saratoga Springs, May 5, 2020. The program will be Ikebana, Japanese Art of Flower Arrangement. More information to follow.

Our FGCNYS, Vikki Bellias notes the days are getting longer and looks forward to a productive spring. This director will forward the Club Recognition Award Application. Fill out the application noting all the great projects your club accomplished in 2019 and receive a Certificate of Recognition from President Vikki.

Looking forward to a wonderful spring and how can we...Plant America: Spreading Roots ThruNY ❤️

#### The Garden Gate

Charlanne Ryan-McDonough, Editor  
[charlanne@roadrunner.com](mailto:charlanne@roadrunner.com)  
(518) 796-1777  
Published 3x per year  
**Next Deadline: June 1, 2020**

#### District IV Officers

Charlanne Ryan-McDonough, Director  
Annette Newcomb, Assistant Director  
Mary Anne Brown, Recording Secretary  
Sharon Meyer, Corresponding Secretary  
Barbara Millington, Treasurer

### Schuylerville Garden Club

Schuylerville Garden Club hopes every one had a happy healthy holiday.



Our fall has been busy as usual. November saw us creating ornaments and table decorations under the guidance of Life Judge Liz Gee. Everyone brought seed pods, dried flowers, nuts, etc. from nature. It is amazing what

mother nature gives us to work with. We all left the meeting with an amazing design.

Members met at Kathy Turcotte's home to decorate wreaths. Members then delivered them to various locations in the village. Those who went to place one at the Blue Star Memorial encountered deep snow drifts and retrieved the yellow ribbon blowing across the field. Such dedication.



On December 11 we met at Long Fellows restaurant for Christmas cheer and good fun. Just a warm up to the holiday season. On the 16th many gathered at Morgans Run Senior Housing to sing holiday songs and enjoy goodies {no calories}.

The new year will start with Leona Brownell speaking on Perennial Gardening month by month. A

great start to the year. It is January and I have received my first spring catalogue.



We have a busy start to the year.

Planning our flower show which will be held on July 11-12 2020.

In February, Marge Shostak, long time prize winner floral designer will demonstrate designs for your home. In March the club will have our winter picnic {inside where it is warm and dry}.

*- Sharlene Pendrak, Correspondent*

### Lake George Community Garden Club

October 1st was an exciting day as LGCGC was proud to support our own, Charlanne Ryan-McDonough, as the new District IV Director, at the District IV Meeting and Luncheon at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga Springs. Congratulations Charlanne, on your deserved position. Good Job!



In November we decorated 17 wreaths for Post Offices, Fire Departments, Libraries and Adult Homes.

We met at St. James Church for some fall cleanup.

Mother Jean was wearing a blower and blowing the leaves all around us on a crisp autumn day!



In December we celebrated the season with our annual

Holiday Luncheon at the Log Jam Restaurant. We brought food items for a local pantry and donated cash to the local Ronald McDonald House.



## The Garden Gate



Our Perennial Planters group learned how to draw flowers, led by member, Judith Tully. Judith's technique was easy and simple and enjoyed by all.

The group also met to decorate our Festival of Trees entry entitled *Starry, Starry Night*. In January, Charlanne presented a Keynote presentation about planting, care and proper storage of dahlias.

*- Deanna Payne, 2nd Vice President*

## Heritage Garden Club

The Holiday Luncheon in early December was a special occasion for the Heritage Garden Club members. They enjoyed a delicious lunch at The Longfellow's Restaurant and the traditional holiday observance written by Lottie Wincowski many years ago. Lottie was a founder of the Heritage Garden Club in 1987. She passed away in late 2019. At this event each year gifts are collected from the members for three organizations and they were very generous again. The cars carrying the gifts to their destinations were stuffed full! These gifts went to the Home of the Good Shepherd in Saratoga Springs. Also warm hats and mittens were given to school children by school personnel who needed them and warm socks and clothing were given to the Shelters of Saratoga for their residents.



## Winter/Spring 2020 (3)

The Winter Garden therapy occasion was held with Woodlawn Commons residents in early December where the residents decorated small trees for their apartments for the holidays.

In January we had a very informative and interesting program on the selection and care of houseplants for the home by Jessica Holmes from the Saratoga County Cooperative extension. The February meeting will have a presentation by Director, Samantha Bosshart, of the Saratoga Preservation Foundation. She will us about the Preservation Foundation's role in preserving Saratoga' Springs' unique architectural and rich cultural heritage. In April, two Master Gardeners, a member and her husband, will present and participate in a question and answer session on Horticulture topics.

The Spring Garden therapy program for the Woodlawn Commons residents will take place in early May. They will plant pansies in baskets with the help



of members and will be able to take these plants to their apartments. They participate in all the steps of the planting process including putting soil into the containers and the plants in the soil. This activity is funded by the Alfred Z. Solomon Charitable Trust, as are the three gardens in the city that are planted and cared for by the members of the Club. The Garden of Hope at the Saratoga Hospital Radiation and Oncology Center, the Memorial garden at the Visitor Center and the Gideon Putnam Burial Ground on South Franklin Street where the founder of Saratoga Springs and his wife are buried.

*- Martha Van Patten, Correspondent*

**Glenville Hills Garden Club of Saratoga**

After our October program on Bonsai Myths and Reality by Pauline Muth, several of our members took advantage of the workshop that followed to create their own Bonsai originals.



Walter Chandler, a local logger, gave a presentation in November to members on the modern practice of logging. He stressed how important it is in the maintenance of a healthy forest. Clearing “weed” trees such as poplar or beech makes room for hard woods such as maple and oak. All the trees he clears are utilized - for paper, furniture, mulch, fuel, sporting goods, buildings and so forth. Our Yuletide catered holiday dinner was held at a member Mari Fettke’s elegantly decorated home in early December. It was a festive way to begin the Holidays.

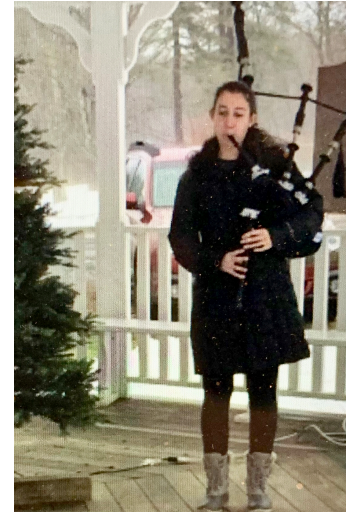
Then, on December 14<sup>th</sup>, our annual Wreaths to Honor Veterans ceremonies took place at six local



sites. Club members, town officials, families of veterans and local residents gathered to pay respect to “Those Who Served” by Remembering, Honoring and Teaching. Bagpipes were played by a member Sue VanOmmeren’s daughter, Trudi. Songs were sung, prayers were said and heads were bowed as we reflected on the freedoms we enjoy paid for by the

sacrifices of our Armed Forces.

Think spring in January? We did after member Sharyn Kalinkewicz did a presentation on building a habitat for Mason Bees out of recycled materials that encourages their population and provides them protection. Mason bees are a native bee that is found in New York



State. They are harmless, solitary and do not live in colonies. They are hardier than honeybees and appear to be less affected by the stresses that plague their famous cousins.

February’s meeting will be a DVD program of the Keukenhof Gardens, near Amsterdam Holland. Every year thousands visit the gardens when they are ablaze with millions of tulips and other spring flowering bulbs.

Adam Quist will be our guest in March. He will demonstrate pruning of small trees, shrubs and fruit-bearing plants.

Members will meet at a local restaurant for our annual “Passing the Gavel” luncheon in April. We will celebrate the past year and recognize outgoing officers, welcome and install incoming officers.

May will be a busy month as members, volunteers and local sixth grade students participate in the Galway Village Clean Up. This will be followed by the Memorial Day Parade and our popular Plant and Pie Sale.

*- Lenore Lanka, Correspondent*



**The Ballston Spa House & Garden Club**



The Ballston Spa House and Garden Club had a busy October. Some of us met at the District IV Meeting and Luncheon to start

off our gardening month. A good time was had by all.

Oct found us elbow deep in plants to create a Floral Design Not Using Pumpkins. The idea was to create an arrangement that would look nice for Oct and Nov. and with a changing of floral colors an arrangement that would look good in Dec. also.

Barb Millington lead us in our creative endeavor and many a happy and creative arrangement was made to grace our homes.

This year we decided to do our food pantry donation at the October meeting instead of the November. It seemed to be a better time as the following months become quite busy. By donating early people are able to plan ahead.

October 17th found us at our local Rehab and Nursing Home to do Garden Therapy with the residents. With glass vases, beans and dried vegetation the residents made arrangements for

themselves or a friend.

We have done this program for a couple of years and always have left feeling better than



when we entered. The residents, though reluctant at first, get into the project and usually leave with a

smile. They enjoy talking with us and we with them. Some tell good stories.

Nov. we collected our new clothing donations to be given away at the annual toy give away for needy families. This year 157 families participated and our donations made sure the older child was not forgotten. Liz Gee our NCG life Judge helped us make Christmas ornaments for tree and house using various various dried plants, seeds and pods. It is amazing what can be created from the common.

Each ornament was brilliantly unique and the artist within shone out. Who knew.

December we treated ourselves to a nice lunch at Lake Ridge Restaurant in Round Lake. Our space



was tight which helped us squeeze in and get to know each other

better. What a treat to have someone else cook for us and serve our lunch on a beautifully set table. We passed around a mite box for the food pantry and were able to donate \$161.00 to help others have a good meal. We truly felt the Christmas Magic.

This year we decided to skip the January meeting due to possible bad weather and many members leaving for warmer places. However, we couldn't resist a Feb. Mardi Gras tea to help us get through the winter. We are looking forward to beads, feathers and gaudiness. Let the good times roll.

March will be our annual Pot Luck Luncheon with the emphasis on green. Everyone will be Irish.

April we will have a speaker from the Cornell Cooperative Extension relative to the Birds and the Bees.

## The Garden Gate

May is a big month for us as we will celebrate 65 years of service and good times. More to come.

*- Barb Millington, Co President*

### Sacandaga Garden Club



The members of our Club would like to thank District 1V for giving us such a warm welcome into your district.

We spent our October meeting preparing centerpieces and favors for our annual luncheon. Our centerpieces were made from pallets and planted with edible micro greens. Our favors were small plant pots with micro greens.

Our annual Luncheon and auction were held on October 10<sup>th</sup> at Hales Miles Country Club. A buffet was served and our members brought wonderful desserts. We added a silent auction this year. The event was very successful. Everyone had a great time and we made money.

On November 14<sup>th</sup> The Club went on a field trip to Lyndon Lyon Greenhouse in Dolgeville, NY. The owner of Lyndon Lyon Greenhouse, Paul Sorano gave us a wonderful presentation about The



## Winter/Spring 2020 (6)

Greenhouse and gave us many hints about growing plants. The greenhouse specializes in African Violets, but also have begonia and orchids and some other interesting plants.. We stopped and enjoyed lunch at Union Hall in Johnstown.

On November 11<sup>th</sup> Carolynn Learch and Donna Frederick, who run our homebound committee, led a group of members who made pinecone Christmas trees that were distributed to the homebound in the area.

The Club met on December 5<sup>th</sup> to make wreaths for The Blue Star Marker and other buildings in the area.



Our last meeting of the year was our Holiday Party. The Party was held at Northville Library. Members brought covered dishes. We played games, had a Yankee Swap and raffled off the centerpieces.

*- Janet Mitchell, President*

Extra Space Fun Project!  
Pounding Flowers by Eileen Ruel and Annette Newcomb from Lake George Community Garden Club.





## District IV Calendar of Events

### Save the Date:

District IV Spring Meeting & Luncheon hosted by Heritage Garden Club

**May 5, 2020 - Registration 9:00 am**

Location: Embassy Suites by Hilton Hotel, Saratoga Springs, NY

---

May 1, 2020	District IV Board Meeting - 9:30 am - 1 Perry Rd., Saratoga Springs, NY
May 5, 2020	District IV Spring Meeting & Luncheon hosted by Heritage Garden Club
May 11-14, 2020	NGC National Convention, Milwaukee, WI
May 20, 2020	FGCNYS Spring Board Meeting, Albany, NY
July 11-12, 2020	Schuylerville Garden Club Standard Flower Show
Sept. 24-26, 2020	NGC Fall Board Meeting, Fargo, ND
Sept. 30, 2020	District IV Board Meeting - 9:30 am - Woodland Commons, Saratoga Springs
Oct. 4-8, 2020	FGCNYS Annual Convention & Symposium, Utica, NY
Oct. 13, 2020	District IV Fall Meeting & Luncheon - Hosted by Ballston Spa House & Garden Club - Location TBA
Nov. 11, 2020	FGCNYS Winter Board Meeting, Albany, NY

## District IV Clubs

Ballston Spa House & Garden Club  
[www.bshgc.org](http://www.bshgc.org)

Glenville Hills Garden Club of Saratoga County  
[www.glenvillehillsgardenclub.org](http://www.glenvillehillsgardenclub.org)

Heritage Garden Club  
[www.heritagegardenclub.org](http://www.heritagegardenclub.org)

Lake George Community Garden Club  
[www.lakegeorgecommunitygardenclub.org](http://www.lakegeorgecommunitygardenclub.org)

Sacandaga Garden Club  
<http://sacandagagardens.blogspot.com/>

Schuylerville Garden Club  
[www.schuylervilllegardenclub.org](http://www.schuylervilllegardenclub.org)